

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claim 8 has been cancelled, while claims 1, 14 and 17 have been amended to include the limitations of cancelled claim 8. In addition, claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of previously cancelled claim 4.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 13, 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over European Patent Application No. EP1182874 A1 to Leporini et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0181811 to Rakib. The Examiner has further rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leporini et al. in view of Rakib, and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,505,160 to Levy et al. In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leporini et al. in view of Rakib, and further in view of International Patent Application No. WO 01/82588 A2 to Yap et al.

In view of the above changes, Applicants believe that these rejections have been overcome.

The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leporini et al. in view of Rakib, and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,890,189 to Nozue et al.

The Leporini et al. patent discloses a digital content protection system which, according to the Examiner, teaches "a

method of recording [para 0103] and/or [para 0001, 0002] of recorded interactive television [para 0021], comprising tagging of recorded interactive television content with identification information for access control to the recorded interactive television content (associating content management information [para 00141 and conditional information [para 0016] with stored contents [para 0034]))."

The Rakib publication discloses thin DOCSIS in-band management for interactive HFC service delivery, which, according to the Examiner, teaches "a method for transmitting interactive data using a management and control identification information that identifies an application to which data is directed by identifying a TCP/IP port number associated with the application [para 0167]."

The Nozue et al. patent discloses a memory management and protection system for virtual memory in computer system in which access rights to a particular memory location is controlled.

Claim 1 (as well as claims 14 and 17) includes the limitation "controlling access to said recorded interactive television content in such a manner that recorded interactive television content may only be deleted or modified by an application that recorded said interactive television content".

The Examiner has indicated that "Nozue discloses a memory management method that ensures that only programs containing rights to a selected section of memory may access section of memory [Abstract]", and that "It would have been obvious to have used the memory management method with the method of Leporini in view of

Rakib to restrict memory access only to programs that have allocated the memory (i.e., the program that recorded the content [Leporini para 0133, 0134, 0198]) for the purpose of protecting memory from unauthorized access or modification [Nozue Abstract]."

Applicants submit that the combination of Leporini et al., Rakib and Nozue et al. restricts memory access to a particular memory segment only to certain programs which then may delete or modify the data in the accessed memory section. However, in the subject invention, as claimed, while multiple applications may have access to the recorded content, only the application that caused the recording of the content may be able to delete or modify the recorded content.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the subject invention, as claimed, is not rendered obvious by the prior art, and as such, is patentable thereover.

Applicants believe that this application, containing claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-14 and 17, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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